

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BANGUI 00699 201507Z

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 JUSE-00 ST-01 /013 W

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R 201000Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY BANGUI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6952

INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AFSP, CT

SUBJECT: COURT CASE AGAINST PAN AFRICAN AIRWAYS, LTD

REF: STATE 093604

1. AS AUTHORIZED REFTEL EMBASSY APPROACHED ATTORNEY VICTOR-JACQUES ONEGLIA APRIL 19 WHO AGREED ORALLY TO SERVE AS COUNSEL IN PRE-LITIGATION PHASE OF STEVER/PAA CASE WITH A VIEW TO ARRIVING AT AN ASSESSMENT OF USG'S LEGAL POSITION PENDING AGREEMENT ON HIS FEES.

2. ONEGLIA EXPRESSED OPINION THAT CASES OF THIS NATURE INVOLVING BOTH A FOREIGN PLAINTIFF AND DEFENDANT AS WELL AS A POSSIBLE THIRD FOREIGN PARTY, THE USG, ARE USUALLY QUITE COMPLICATED AND NOT LIKELY TO BE RESOLVED VERY QUICKLY. HE ALSO SAID THAT ON THE BASIS OF HIS EXPERIENCE THE OBTAINING AND IMPLEMENTING OF A COURT ORDER PARTICULARLY HERE TO SEIZE THE PAA AIRCRAFT WAS PROBABLY MORE COMPLICATED THAN STEVER'S LAWYER LINCOLN THINKS.

3. ONEGLIA ASKED THAT THE EMBASSY REQUEST FOR HIS USE INFORMATION ON (A) THE CONDITIONS OF STEVER'S EMPLOYMENT WITH THE USG AT TIME OF ACCIDENT AND (B) THE TERMS AND AMOUNT OF INDEMNIZATION THE USG PAID TO STEVER. WOULD APPRECIATE CABLE REPLY.

QUAINTON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 APR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976BANGUI00699
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760149-0281
From: BANGUI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760445/aaaablwr.tel
Line Count: 51
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 1
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 93604
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 JUN 2004 by greeneet>; APPROVED <04 OCT 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: COURT CASE AGAINST PAN AFRICAN AIRWAYS, LTD
TAGS: AFSP, CT
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006